

May 1, 2006

Pam Miller  
578 Cedar Lane  
Price, UT 84501

Dear Utah State BLM Officials:

Under regulation 43 CFR 3120.1-3, I am protesting the inclusion of 5 parcels listed in the May 16, 2006 sale notice.

My statement of reason is:

- The parcels 223, 224, 225, 226, and 263 are within the current Vernal Field Office RMP's ACEC for Nine Mile Canyon, and within the proposed boundaries of the Nine Mile Canyon National Register District. Gas development on these leases will compromise the values of both the ACEC and the National Register District.
- Some areas of the parcels are in the canyon bottom proper, and others are in areas that will impact the visual qualities of the Nine Mile Canyon Back County Byway.
- All of these parcels are situated to contain plentiful and fragile archaeology sites.
- I have heard from both field office managers and State Office BLM employees that there will be no surface occupancy of leases in the bottom of Nine Mile Canyon. Logic questions why BLM would sell a lease they won't allow industry to develop.
- This action is contrary to BLM efforts to nominate Nine Mile Canyon to the National Register of Historic Places, the existing Nine Mile Canyon management plan developed by the Price Field Office, and the Nine Mile Canyon Interpretive Plan.

My interest in this action comes from the role of a tax payer who frequently visits Nine Mile Canyon for recreation and scenic values, and a professional archaeologist with 32 years of experience working in Nine Mile Canyon.

Thank you for this opportunity to protest. Please withdraw these leases from the sale.

Sincerely,

Pam Miller

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UTAH STATE OFFICE